

55,000 Tons Of Coal Brings Relief to City

Rising Temperature Aids in Restoring Comfort to New York

Police Help to Heat Many Homes

Freezing Rain and Slippery Streets May Hamper Deliveries To-day

Thanks to the rising temperature and 55,000 tons of coal delivered here during the day, New York retired last night in the nearest approach to comfort the city has experienced since the arrival of the recent cold wave.

The entire police force combed the city for surplus fuel, tapping private and public bins for contributions, with the result that warmth was carried into homes that had been without fires for days. In some instances families that to-day may be without fuel gave their bit, in small piles, bags, or even a shovelful, to aid neighbors whose needs had been brought to their attention by the all-seeing crossing policeman.

Just how long radiators will continue to click was a question that neither Federal administrators of fuel nor volunteer investigators dared to answer. But a continuation of mild weather and favorable conditions is expected to bring an even greater supply of fuel to the city to-day.

Temperature To Be Stationary

From the office of the weather forecaster in the Whitehall Building came the encouraging news that there probably would be no change in the temperature to-day. East to south winds, which resulted in the hoisting of storm flags in warning of atmospheric disturbances this morning, were scheduled to bring rain or snow to New York and vicinity, but no drop of the mercury.

The rain, however, arrived before schedule at 11 o'clock last night, coating sidewalks and streets with a thin sheet of ice that may prove a formidable obstacle in the way of coal deliveries to-day. How serious this difficulty may be in holding up deliveries nobody was able to say last night. It was explained, however, that a slight rise of the mercury would make team delivery in the streets an easy task.

During the day a fleet of ninety-two barges moved across North River to Manhattan, bringing exactly 55,000 tons of coal. Pitt D. Hand, representing A. H. Smith, assistant railroad director, produced the official figures of coal brought to the city, which indicated that New York was in far better condition last night than at any time since the fuel situation became acute a week ago.

But to prevent optimism from rising faster than the temperature or the coal supply Mr. Hand called attention to the fact that there still were obstacles to a complete solution of the heat problem.

"I would rather be hanged as an optimist than a pessimist, but the situation is still serious, and will be for months to come," he said. "It has come to a serious problem of loading and unloading the coal that is lying at terminals, and workers are busy night and day relieving that situation."

More Coal at Terminals

According to the railroad officials' figures, 18,000 tons of anthracite coal reached the city for delivery during the day and 37,073 tons of bituminous coal was unloaded on the New York side of the river. There still is a large supply of coal waiting on barges to be rushed to the city from Jersey City and Hoboken terminals this morning. According to Mr. Hand's figures, this waiting addition to the city's supply consists of 1,103 carloads, or 55,150 tons. Moreover, there are 207 empty barges at tidewater awaiting the arrival of coal this morning, with a total carrying capacity of 222,000 tons. Since one phase of the city's fuel problem has been difficulty in moving coal across the North River after its arrival at Jersey terminals, this supply of barges was accepted as another cause for thanksgiving.

That there will be ample fuel to keep the barges busy this morning was evident from additional figures showing that many cars of coal were on sidings in Jersey City awaiting opportunities to be unloaded into the railroad's giant pockets to-day.

In the sidings, according to the railroad figures, were 2,419 cars, carrying a total of 120,950 tons of anthracite coal. One thousand more cars of bituminous hold 50,000 tons of fuel, or a grand total of 170,950 tons of both kinds of coal that will be available for delivery for all purposes to-day.

Harbor Navigation Still Difficult

Ice does still make navigation in the harbor a perilous job and, in the case of some kinds of shipping, an impossibility. Numerous ships that arrived in the lower harbor during the day, including one British auxiliary cruiser, were compelled to anchor there because of the large quantities of ice that prevented them from making their slips.

A fleet of tugs was sent out in the afternoon to endeavor to break up a great floe more than two hundred feet long that was blocking the opening to Erie Basin and the Bush Terminal docks. Mild weather, it was explained, had remained several days before it had a marked effect upon snow enemies of navigation.

Acting Chief Inspector John O'Brien, who had charge of the Police Department's search for coal and its distribution, after collection, was elated at the showing made by the bluecoats during the day.

"The people have been wonderful in their generosity," he said. "One could scarcely imagine the poor dividing their small supplies of precious fuel to give it to some stranger whose needs

Stokes Will Not Follow Wife to Socialist Party

Couple Prefer Separate Interviews in Discussing Political Theories

J. G. Phelps Stokes, who was a Socialist once, and his wife, Mrs. Rose Pastor Stokes, who wants to be a Socialist once more, sat side by side before a cheerily blazing fireplace at their home, 88 Grove Street, last night. In the matter of political opinions they were about as widely separated as though an ocean had been between them.

For nearly twelve years Mr. and Mrs. Stokes had been working together—writing, lecturing, organizing, much of the time for the cause of socialism. Even when it came to leaving the Socialist party to go over to President Wilson's side in this war, they acted as one, both resigning from the party July 9. The parting of their political ways came day before yesterday, when Mrs. Stokes applied for readmission into the Socialist party.

Mr. Stokes Not Reconciled
Mrs. Stokes may be going back into the Socialist fold, but there apparently is not the slightest possibility of her taking Mr. Stokes back with her. Here is what Mr. Stokes thought of the Socialist party at 8:25 o'clock last night.

"The Socialist party in the United States," he said, "by its determined opposition to America's participation in the war, has done more to jeopardize the cause of humanity, has done more to help a triumph of Teutonism, than any other factor."

It was not in the presence of Mrs. Stokes that Mr. Stokes spoke of the party that his wife now hopes to rejoin. When a reporter called Mrs. Stokes excused herself, saying that she and Mr. Stokes would outline their political opinions separately.

"Mrs. Stokes and I," continued Mr. Stokes, "still have the same ideals, the same aims, but we differ on the means of attaining them. I believe the welfare of humanity can best be promoted through the development of democracy. My wife believes it can best be promoted through the Socialist party. That is why she wants to return to the party."

"There isn't the slightest chance of my returning with her. I have no intention that a single individual is likely to go back with her. John Spargo and the others of us who left the party last summer are still as determined as ever in our fight against the party which as so hindered America in the service it is trying to do to humanity."

Whereupon Mr. Stokes went upstairs and Mrs. Stokes came down and explained her position. She wishes to return to the Socialist party, she said, so as to be in a position to fight for the same principles that President Wilson stands for.

"I don't believe," she explained, "that the Allies would make a truly democratic peace without pressure from the people. That pressure must come from the Socialists. Without that pressure there is danger of a capitalist peace—a sort of gentlemen's agreement between the capitalists and the imperialists of the various countries as to the division of the spoils."

Morris Hillquit and other leaders at the Socialist convention at People's House, 7 East Fifteenth Street, yesterday predicted that Mrs. Stokes would be taken back without delay.

Seditious Textbook In Washington Irving School, Says Gerard

German Reader Full of Teuton Propaganda, Declares Ex-Ambassador

Pro-German propagandists, by clever manipulation, have placed a textbook that embodies much seditious teaching in the Washington Irving High School, James W. Gerard, former Ambassador to Germany, charged last night in an address delivered at the school to 2,500 members of the American Loyalty League of Polish Descendants.

The book to which Mr. Gerard referred, he said after the meeting, a German reader, written by Professor Prokosh, of the faculty of the University of Texas, in collaboration with a teacher in one of the Milwaukee schools.

"I found that this text book used in this very school in which you are holding your meeting—a book published since the war began—is full of pro-German propaganda," Mr. Gerard declared.

"In its very introduction it announces untruthfully that the German union of states is similar to the United States government. And despite the fact that the veriest novice in international government knows such a statement to be untrue, it is being accepted as fact and taught to the pupils of this school."

One other excerpt from the book was given by Mr. Gerard. It says the Kaiser cannot declare war without the endorsement of his parliament.

"Can anything be more absurd?" the former ambassador demanded. "The war Lord of Germany has been prepared to declare a so-called 'defensive' war on his own initiative, and that was forcibly illustrated when this great conflict began. He declared it a 'defensive' war, and his theory met with no opposition. That is the sort of book our children are being taught to read as the truth."

Lynn Flat Dwellers Asked To Cut Baths to One a Week

BOSTON, Jan. 6.—Owners of apartment houses in Lynn, where everything is furnished but the rent, to-day notified tenants to carry out a one-bath-a-week programme to aid in conserving the coal supply.

Allies Face Gravest Food Crisis in War

America Deeply Concerned Over Report From Lord Rhondda

France Seizes Wheat; Cuts Bread Ration

Compulsory Control Was Demanded by U. S. at Paris Conference

WASHINGTON, Jan. 6.—The food situation in the Allied countries of Europe is graver than it has been at any time since the beginning of the war, and is giving American government officials deep concern. Official reports picture extreme food shortages in England, France and Italy.

The fact that conditions in Germany and Austria are far worse offers the only grounds for optimism in viewing the situation.

In England and France the situation



IT'S ALL RIGHT TO HURRY, BUT—



1915-16

IT IS JUST AS WELL TO REMEMBER THAT IT WASN'T THE HORSE'S FAULT THAT WE DIDN'T START SOONER

is described as critical in a cable dispatch to the food administration today from Lord Rhondda, the British Food Controller, which concluded with these words:

"I view the situation with grave anxiety."

The frank statement of the British Food Controller recalled the significant statement in Colonel House's report of the American mission's work abroad, which declared the Allies agreed to comply with America's insistence on the control of foodstuffs. The House report said:

"In order to permit the United States to visualize the problem of food control in North America, plans were worked out whereby the governments of Great Britain, France and Italy agreed to put into effect a legalized and compulsory control of foodstuffs in these countries."

France Cuts Bread Ration

Yesterday a cablegram from the French government said that the wheat crop had been requisitioned and that the bread ration would be cut to allow only seven ounces of bread daily to all persons except the very poor and those doing hard manual labor. In Italy conditions are not as good perhaps as in either England or France.

Compulsory rationing will be started in England immediately, with meat the first commodity to be put under control. Distribution of butter and margarine will be taken in hand next and other foods will be added as they become scarcer. All of the principal foodstuffs will be rationed by April.

"The food position in this country, and I understand in France, also, can without exaggeration be described as critical and anxious. As I am now unable to avoid compulsory rationing, I fear it will have to come with long queues of people awaiting in the severe weather in practically every town in England for the daily necessities of life."

Beaten by Mob For Lauding foe In Draft Reply

New Haven Man Is Forced to Kiss Flag and Sing Anthem

N. Y. Guard Among Next Units to Sail

It Will Form Overseas Contingent With Militia of Three Other States

NEW HAVEN, Conn., Jan. 6.—Maximilian von Hoegen, who wrote upon his draft questionnaire "Deutschland uber alles," and other pro-German sentiments last week, was dragged from his home early this morning and badly beaten.

The mob, hauled von Hoegen to a small square near the Winchester Repeating Arms Company's plant. While some men held him others punched him in the face until his nose was broken. Before he was released he was forced to kiss the American flag and proclaim the United States at the head of all nations.

Von Hoegen was sitting with his family in their home in Division Street shortly after midnight when the mob entered. The men wore tattered clothing and had blackened their faces. They dragged the man from the house and rushed him to the square.

There the various newspapers which he had made to his questionnaire were read to him. Each time he admitted

Inspector General Praises It Highly

Surplus Regiments Will Remain as Nucleus for New Army Corps

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WASHINGTON, Jan. 6.—The New York guardsmen, with those of Michigan, Wisconsin and Illinois, will compose the next three National Guard divisions to be sent abroad, it was authoritatively learned to-day at the War Department. Information about the time of departure cannot be published because of the voluntary censorship regulations.

These three divisions, now completing their training at Spartanburg, S.

[Staff Correspondence]

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Teutons Suspend Parley; Refuse to Go to Stockholm; Hitch Alarms the Reichstag

Hearst's Peace Talk Weakens Morale of U. S. Troops in France

Germans Fear Allied Influence on Russians if Conference Is Moved to Sweden

By Heywood Brown
WITH THE AMERICAN ARMY IN FRANCE, Dec. 22.—The morale of the American army is fair. It might be better. American troops keep good spirits when they have enough to do, but when they are put in damp, muddy villages and have almost nothing to do because the weather is bad they get grouchy and homesick and discontented. Some are in that state now.

There is also a more serious matter. Every division which arrives in France at some time or another goes through a phase during which the soldiers get the idea that the war will soon be over. "We'll never get to the trenches," is a statement which I have heard again and again from new troops. U. S. is not made because the troops hope to avoid the trenches. Not very many feel that way. Most would like to have just a little war before going home. The notion that the war is almost over appears so regularly and is such a foe of morale that I have almost come to think that it is planted in the American camps.

Of course, one source is the Hearst newspaper. One group at least which told me the war was almost over based their belief on an editorial about the Pope's peace plan which had been clipped from "The New York American" and sent to a couple of men in the company. Others are more vague and say that some Frenchman or other told them.

The first move which the Germans made to disrupt the Italian army came in the form of a wide distribution of the report that war was almost over. We should have some means of checking pernicious propaganda in our army. We need an official propaganda organization. It is well to keep our war aims before the men, because when conditions get bad and men get tired they forget.

It is difficult to see the American soldier through the mass of material which has been written about him. One correspondent writes that "the green troops of a few months ago have now become perfect soldiers."

Another is not sure that the American soldier is perfect. After some reflection he decides that good nature stands between the doughboy and military perfection. All this would be harmless enough but for the fact that it strengthens the hands of the foes of preparedness. It would suffice, you may remember, to have a million men spring to arms overnight, because they would be Americans.

The American Soldier Has Not Been Tested Yet

Now the American is potentially a good soldier, but he is not a super soldier. Five hundred thousand Americans in the field, if they were well trained, would be just five hundred thousand well trained troops. They would not work any miracles. They could not by themselves smash the German line or march into Berlin, or anything like that.

The American is potentially a good soldier, but there is no reason to believe that he will be the best soldier in Europe. It is by no means certain that he will be as good as the best of the English, the French or the Germans. As yet he has met no test. He was hailed as a great soldier by some from the moment he stepped down the gangplank and landed in France.

American newspaper men were not alone at fault. The French aided in the puff. One Parisian wrote a green battalion of doughboys march by and then rushed to his office to write that they were "Roman Caesars clad in khaki."

Arrived in camp, the doughboys were always pictured as missing everything with ease and dispatch, but the fact remains that it took several weeks longer to train our regulars for the trenches than to fit British draft troops. That is hardly fair, since we did not have an organization to put them through.

French Troops Supreme With Aid of Tradition
What I am hammering at is that too much must not be expected from the Americans. We ought to withhold most of our comment until they have been through a real test. And the dictionary novelties to their quality as troops is largely guesswork. We have the advantage of youth and average much younger than British, French or Germans at the present time. This is to our advantage. Ours are not quite the best troops physically, but they are well up. Australians and Canadians here are more husky, and I repeat to report that an American regiment which engaged in a first fight with an Australian regiment in England had a shade the worst of it, according even to American officers of that regiment.

Personally I believe that we will average up with the British and the French, and in a year or two may be a little better through having greater field of selection. I doubt, however, if we will touch the high water mark of the French army. I do not think that the best of our troops will be as good as the best of the French troops. After all, in his finest moments France has a positive genius for warfare. That is not to our disadvantage. It is harder for the French to do it. It is harder for the American to do it. The French tradition of the French. If the American is to be among the best in the war his initiative must be capitalized. It can be made a virtue. In early stages it may be a fault.

The Americans, for instance, are much more nervous and excitable than the French. Asked for a comment on our men in the trenches, a French officer said: "They will be fine. I think they will be as good as the Canadians, maybe. But they are jumpy now. It makes no difference. The Canadians were like that at first. It is harder for an American to sit still than for a Frenchman."

The jumpiness to which the Frenchman referred was a marked tendency to blaze away into the darkness of

No Man's Land upon hearing slight sounds. One platoon gave a rather human looking stare in the own wire the very devil of a time during their first night in the trenches. But let it be said to their credit that they hit it. A patrol found the stake splintered by bullets.

This same quality of acting without long reflection is jumpiness in green troops, but it becomes dash and initiative with well trained men. The soldier who to-day fires at a tuft of waving grass without waiting for an order from his officer may be the same man who some day in the future will rush a machine gun which is holding up his company or perform any one of those acts in which quick decision is essential.

The Doughboy Kicks At All the Little Things
We read continually of the marvelous man in which the American soldier adapts himself to conditions. That is not altogether true. Everybody back home knows that kicking is a national characteristic. Particularly Americans are fond of complaining about food. And so of course they kick over here, too. They kick about food and they kick about the weather and their billets. They are seldom justified in their complaints about food, sometimes right about their billets, but eminently entitled to complain about the weather. They even kick because the people in France speak French. I found one soldier who was very severe and abrupt with a woman who kept a store because she could not understand a word of his English.

However, the American soldier has an admirable quality which counteracts his tendency to kick. In this he is like a Britisher. He will kick much more about little things than big ones. Soldiers who abused the food when they were back in the village had kind words for exactly the same ration when they were in the trenches. Also they had a tendency to minimize hardships up there and would say that the doughs "weren't so bad." As one soldier said: "The only trouble with them is that they've got water in them."

The American soldier has good courage for the most part, and he has other admirable qualities, mixed with some which are not so good. It would be a little better if folk back home heard more of him as he really is, even if that should dissipate the impression that he is a saint. French and American writers have sentimentalized him to an extent which would make the blood of the American soldier run cold. I hope, for instance, that newspaper doughboy whom Pershing visited in the hospital with others never sees the story in which an American reporter declared that he broke down and wept when the general spoke to him.

The Boches Jolted Them And It Has Helped Them
We have not yet had the wisdom to take things as they came and tell them in just that way. For instance, the Germans made a highly successful trench raid and captured American prisoners with no great difficulty, because there was not the proper coordination between the American infantry and the American artillery. The men who were trapped in the trench fought hard, but the whole affair was distinctly a jolt for us. It had a good effect on the men. It made them mad and anxious to get back at the Germans, but it lost that good effect back home, because most newspapers insisted on trying to twist the affair around into an American triumph. One, indeed, spoke of the attacking Germans as having been driven off, though they were, in fact, raids whose object was to take prisoners and get away.

Latest Italian Draft Calls Even Defectives
WASHINGTON, Jan. 6.—Italy has adopted a drastic new policy to increase her fighting forces. Physical requirements have been modified, and all men between the ages of 18 and 44 years previously exempted for defects are ordered to present themselves for further examination. Those accepted will be mustered in the army on January 15. It is estimated that the decree will bring more than 600,000 men to the colors.

Plot to Deceive Entente Suspected

French Papers Say Step Is a Trick to Confuse the Real Issues

LONDON, Jan. 6.—An official statement issued at Berlin yesterday and forwarded by the Zurich correspondent of the Exchange Telegraph Company announced that because of the Russian request to transfer the peace parleys from Brest-Litovsk to Stockholm the Central Powers had temporarily suspended the negotiations with Russia.

The message, which was filed at Zurich on Saturday, said: "Another Crown Council was held to-day at Berlin, at which Field Marshal von Hindenburg and General von Ludendorff attended. After the meeting the following official statement was issued:

"In consequence of the request of the Russian government to transfer the seat of negotiations from Brest-Litovsk to Stockholm, the Central Powers have temporarily suspended the negotiations with Russia."

Government's Step Indorsed
A belated dispatch from the correspondent of the Associated Press in Berlin, which is dated Friday, shows that there was great political perturbation following the meeting of the Main Committee of the Reichstag to-day. The meeting lasted barely forty-five minutes, a motion for adjournment being supported by all factions except the Independent Socialists.

Immediately on adjournment all the parties entered into caucus sessions, which continued throughout the day and until late at night. The indications pointed, the correspondent says, to an endorsement of the government's attitude against moving the peace negotiations from Brest-Litovsk to Stockholm by the Right, Centre and Progressive parties, including the pacifists, the liberal wings of the Nationals, Liberals and Clericals, and the Scheidegger wing of the Socialists, but the attitude in general of the Socialists was problematical.

Fears Allied Diplomats
The Liberal "Tagblatt" reflects the general attitude of the press in deploring that negotiations at Stockholm would be impossible. The newspaper says that British, French and American diplomats and their numerous agents are buzzing about Stockholm and would promptly weave a net of intrigue around the conference and that espionage would flourish, making successful negotiations impossible.

A Reuters dispatch from Amsterdam dated to-day says the hitch over Brest-Litovsk is considered to endanger the cohesion of the Reichstag majority, but that great efforts are being made to prevent the falling away of the Socialists from the majority. The dispatch refers to the possibility of a new constellation of Reichstag parties.

The Berlin "Vorwaerts," the Socialist organ, refers to a declaration by the Chancellor on the endangering of the peace negotiations as having fallen on the spirit of the nation like a black cloud. The newspaper says the situation is extraordinarily serious.

LONDON, Jan. 6.—Dispatches received from Petrograd dated Friday and Saturday confirm the previous reports that the Russian peace delegation, including Leon Trotsky, the Bolshevik Foreign Minister, returned to Brest-Litovsk in an endeavor to arrange for a transfer of the negotiations to neutral territory. The German refusal to acquiesce in the Russian demand, according to these dispatches, was based on the fact that their delegates already had arrived at Brest-Litovsk.

Gen. von Ludendorff's Resignation Reported And Officially Denied

AMSTERDAM, Jan. 6.—An official Berlin dispatch says that a report published in several papers that General von Ludendorff, First Quartermaster General, had tendered his resignation is not in accordance with the facts.

This is the first intimation that the resignation of General von Ludendorff had been mentioned or discussed. He was generally looked upon as the greatest power in Germany, aside from the Emperor, the directing brains of the German Staff and the organizer of the empire on a war basis. He has been the inseparable companion of von Hindenburg and the idol of the militarists. On Saturday he attended the Crown Council with the Kaiser.

French Papers Call Suspension of Parley a Plot to Fool Allies

PARIS, Jan. 6.—In the refusal of the Germans to resume peace negotiations with the Bolsheviks in Stockholm